

ACTIVITIES AMONG SCHOOLS.

Chicago in the Lead—Bishop Grant's Sound Pulpit Utterances—An Amateur Organist—Work Among Women.

Chicago, Ill., Special.—Very artistic and very entertaining was the reception tendered the visiting teachers and students at Quinn Chapel on last Thursday night, by the "Colored Student's Club of the University of Chicago." The occasion was a testimonial to the cause of higher education of the Negro. All the prominent Negro colleges were represented by former students; music, literature, theology, medicine, law, and all the scientific branches were enthusiastically encouraged and heartily endorsed by men and women who, for a few brief moments, had occasion to imagine themselves within the college wall again in the "dear old college days." Addresses were made by Mesdames D. H. Williams, Fannie Barrier Williams, Drs. M. H. Jackson, C. E. Bently, and a number of young lawyers, doctors, and students. After the programme, the guests retired to the banquet tables which were decorated in the colors of the University of Chicago.

Dr. D. H. Williams is out of the city for a few days.

Miss Susie Breat of Quincy, Ill., who has been visiting on the West Side, Chicago, is now a guest of Miss Hattie George of Washington, D. C.

Senator T. T. Allain, speaking of The Colored American says:

"According to the best information received at the different Republican Headquarters, National, State, Congressional, and Cook County Committees, that the Republican party through out this State and in the Nation, is better organized for victory than Napoleon ever had his army?" He furthermore says, "The Colored American, coming as it does from the National Capital, sings the happy song, and its melody goes reverberating in the valley and as it is a known fact that it takes money to make the horse run, you had better send me my bill C. O. D."

A new Institutional church has been organized by the A. M. E. Bishops and hopes to fill a long felt want in the City of Chicago. It is starting out, supported by some of Chicago's most influential citizens, and if they are indefatigable in their promises, there is no reason why the Institutional church should not be a glowing success. Such departments as kindergarten, business courses, cooking school, sewing school, printing, reading room and library, lectures, deaconess' training school, physical culture, employment and information bureau, day nursery and visiting nurses, rescue work, mother's meeting, boys brigade, penny saving bank, dispensary, men's club, music, and a woman's auxiliary, are the features which constitute the business portion of the Institutional church. The building holds more people than any of our other churches and has an enormous pipe organ with water power attachment which alone cost one thousand dollars.

The colored churches of Chicago are magnificent structures, but by no means are they out of debt and the Institutional church adds another terrific debt to the already present indebtedness. If the new effort proves a success the Institutional church will, no doubt be able to assist the older churches of the connection that have stood the storms for the last half century.

IN CHURCH CIRCLES.

Bishop Abraham Grant preached to nearly one thousand people at Quinn Chapel last Sunday morning. The Bishop is very much averse to mixing up politics with religion and has already made plain an impressive the fact that he intends to wipe out every inkling of political aspiration wherever he succeeds in finding its fangs fastened in the pulpits over which he exercises authority. When the Bishop made this statement, the house arose in one loud cheer.

Rev. Ransom preached to eight hundred people at the new church on last Sunday night.

Rev. Abraham L. Murray of Indianapolis, Ind., took Rev. Ransom's place at Bethel and entered upon his work with great enthusiasm.

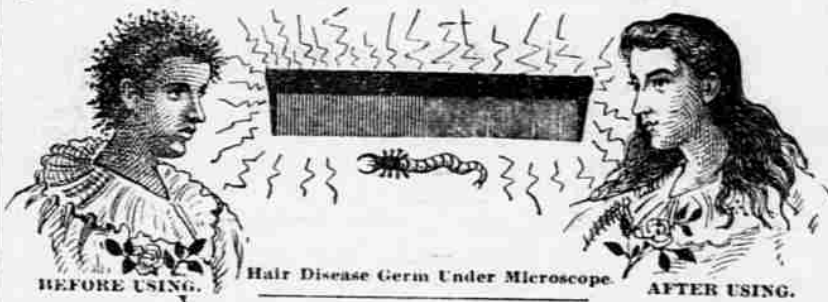
The Grace Presbyterian church which for twelve years has been a mission is now an independent church, having resumed all of its own responsibilities and boldly stepping out into the world to make itself a power in the community where it is located.



THE NEW CHICAGO ORGANIST.

Although I am not an advance agent for any of the different denominations in Chicago, I would venture to say that there is an opening for two expert pipe organists in this city. Some of our very proficient organists are out of the city for the summer—and probably for more than a year's time, as the girls are making from ten to fifteen dollars per week for one and one-half hour's work. The Institutional church started out with a Swedish lady at the organ; and some young man had the nerve to play at Quinn Chapel Sunday night although he was aware of the fact that he knew nothing about the organ. He started to play something that sounded like the introduction to the "Chimes of Normandy," and after he had spent about two minutes playing two pedals at a time, he lost his balance entirely and fell down flat on the chromatic scale and thumped up and down that elegant big pipe organ making a note sound here and there like an accordion that has every key broken but the third and fifth. Where this anxious organist came from I don't know as I haven't seen him since, although he got well paid for his service. Chicago is a good field for thorough musicians, although we do not always get the credit for being musical, or as I have heard it said "The Westerners have not the refined, artistic, musical sense." However, we are not gifted with sentimentalism but rather with realism in music. We are quite aware when we do well, and are not led away by the compliments of the people and the sweet strains that our fingers bring forth or that our voices may be able after toilsome study to send floating in the air to enchant

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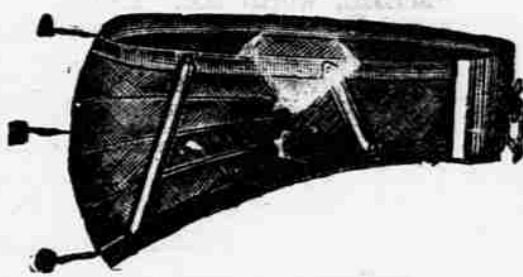
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